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Review of Private Career School Participation Criteria State Need Grant Program

Higher Education Coordinating Board
May 25, 2006

Goals

Working in collaboration with the Washington Federation of Private Career Schools and Colleges:

- Clarify and better define the criteria that govern participation of private career schools in the State Need Grant program

Additional Goals

Collaborative review of standards with the Federation will give the board and the public assurance of:

- Institutional capability and quality
- Rigorous and reasonable standards

Work Group Formed

- HECB staff
- Washington Federation of Private Career Schools and Colleges:
 - Gena Wikstrom, Executive Director
 - Rick Sinclair, Interface Computer School, Spokane
- First meeting held in April 2006

Private Vocational Schools Participating in SNG Program

1. Art Institute of Seattle
2. Bryman College
3. Clare's Beauty College
4. Court Reporting Institute
5. Crown College
6. Divers Institute of Technology
7. Gene Juarez Academy
8. Glen Dow Academy
9. Interface Computer School
10. International Air & Hospitality Academy
11. ITT Technical Institute- Seattle
12. ITT Technical Institute- Spokane
13. Perry Technical Institute
14. DigiPen Institute of Technology
15. Northwest College of Art

2004-05 Statistics of the SNG Participating Schools

- Enrollment 8,000+
- SNG Recipients 2,700
- SNG Funding \$4.2 Million

(All SNG payments are made to the student and not the institution.)

Significant Events

- 1978 Rules amended to permit private vocational school participation
- 1995 Rules amended allowing most private vocational schools to participate in the SNG program
 - Participation increases from 4 schools to 15 schools, including ACPE and BCTI
- 2000 ACPE closes
- 2005 BCTI closes

Summary of Current Eligibility Criteria

- Be accredited by an agency recognized by rule of the board.
- Be unconditionally certified to participate in federal student aid programs.

Summary of Current Eligibility Criteria (cont.)

- Demonstrate the capability to administer state student aid programs.
- Demonstrate the financial resources to provide the services described in the schools official catalog.

Questions Posed to Work Group

1. What standards exist to assess the adequacy of personnel?
2. What standards are available to assess the adequacy of systems and records-keeping?
3. What constitutes adequate policies and procedures?
4. What standards are available to assess the school's financial capability?

Questions Posed to Workgroup

5. What output benchmarks should be expected of the institution? What consumer information should be provided to the student?
6. What constitutes an adequate level of institutional commitment to assisting the student with financing the total cost of attendance?
7. Should degree-granting for-profit schools be authorized under the state Degree Authorization Act (WAC 250-61) as a condition for participating in the SNG program?

Process and Tentative Timeline

| | |
|------------------|---|
| June 2006 | Continued discussions with the work group |
| June - July 2006 | Tentative recommendations formulated |
| June or July | Public meeting scheduled |
| Mid Summer | Proposed rules drafted |
| Mid Summer | Formal rules making process started |

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